



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

March 2, 2000

H.R. 2368
Bikini Resettlement and Relocation Act of 1999

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on February 10, 2000*

H.R. 2368 would amend the terms of the Resettlement Trust Fund for the People of Bikini to authorize a one-time distribution to the people of Bikini. The amount of the distribution would be limited to the greater of 3 percent of the fund's market value or the amount that exceeds the fund's principal. The federal government established the trust fund in 1982 to assist in relocating and resettling the people of the Bikini Atoll, who were moved off of their islands by the United States to facilitate the government's testing of nuclear weapons during the 1940s and 1950s.

Although the federal government has imposed restrictions on how monies appropriated into the Resettlement Trust Fund (which have already been counted as outlays) can be used, the funds belong to the people of Bikini and thus are nonfederal. Consequently, enacting the legislation would have no impact on the federal budget. Because the legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 2368 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is John R. Righter. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.